



SARC Reporting Element for Teacher Misassignments Clarified

For many years, the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) has contained reporting elements for teacher credentials, teacher education level, teacher evaluations, substitute teachers, and core academic courses not taught by teachers meeting the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

In the case of the teacher credentials element, all the data for the past three school years are provided by the California Department of Education (CDE) with the exception of "teachers teaching outside subject area." This latter data element, which in statute is referred to as "any assignment of teachers outside their subject areas of competence," has been a SARC element since the voters approved Proposition 98 in 1988. Data for this element are to be provided by the local educational agency (LEA).

In implementing the settlement agreement in the case of *Williams, et al. v. State of California, et al.*, Senate Bill 550 recently added the number of teacher "misassignments," including the misassignment of teachers of English

learners, to SARCs published in the 2004-05 school year. The measure defined a "misassignment" as "... the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold."

This new reporting element, which requires that local educational agencies provide the relevant data, has been amended into the 2003-04 SARC template pursuant to action by the State Board of Education. For SARCs prepared in the 2004-05 school year, LEAs are required to collect and report the newly required data for one prior year only. This reporting period will increase to two prior years for SARCs prepared in the 2005-06 school year and to three prior years for SARCs prepared in the 2006-07 school year.

In recent weeks, the CDE has had numerous discussions about the new misassignment reporting element with state education and credentialing officials as well as representatives of

county office of education personnel offices. The purpose of these discussions is to gather information that can eventually lead to a clarified data definition for the new reporting element. Based on these discussions, the CDE can now share the following guidance:

- The longtime reporting element “teachers teaching outside subject area” is, in most instances, a subset of the new teacher misassignment reporting element. State law requires both of these elements to be reported in the SARC.
- In addition to misassignments of teachers of English learners, total misassignments to be reported in the SARC include the assignment of employees to services positions for which the employee does not hold the required certificate, credential, or other statutory authorization. These services areas, for which the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) issues credentials, include Administrative Services, Pupil Personnel Services, Clinical/Rehabilitative Services, Library Media Services, and School Nurse or Other Health Services.
- Certificated employee misassignment data have for many years been collected and reported by all districts and monitored by county offices of education and the CCTC. To locate these data for inclusion in each report card, SARC coordinators are encouraged to contact their organization’s personnel office.

SARC Template with Data Updated to Reflect Final Data Files

The 2003-04 SARC template with data was updated in February 2005 following the release of final Academic Performance Index (API), Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), Program Improvement (PI) status, physical fitness testing, and graduation rate data files. In some cases, SARCs may need to be revised to reflect this new information. To determine if a particular update has occurred, please consult the [Updates to Data](#) page.

SARC Preparation Guide Posted on the CDE Web Site

A [SARC Preparation Guide](#) is now posted on the [SARC Web page](#) on the CDE Web site. The guide provides links to useful background information about the SARC, instructions for preparing and distributing SARCs, and reminders about sending current contact information and SARC Web site addresses to the CDE.

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